

freeze. He opposed both the Persian Gulf War in 1991 under first President Bush, and the invasion of Iraq in 2003 by the current President Bush.

William Sloan Coffin, Jr. was a man of strong and passionate views. Needless to say, not everyone agreed with all of his positions. But whoever knew him—and I count myself fortunate to be among them—recognized his courage, his dedication to ethical reasoning, and his profound commitment to social justice. He served as a model of the engaged intellectual to generations of students and to countless Americans. The Nation will miss him, Vermont will miss him, and I will miss his strength and passion for justice.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
JOSEPH L. FORTUNA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Joseph L. Fortuna, devoted family man, United States Veteran, business leader, and friend and mentor to many.

As the founder of Fortuna Funeral Home on Fleet Avenue in Cleveland, Mr. Fortuna served the citizens of Slavic Village, Newburgh Heights and communities beyond with great care, compassion and professionalism, for more than 50 years. He grew up near Union Avenue, and held a lifelong commitment to family, faith and to the residents of southeast Cleveland that reflected throughout his lifetime.

Mr. Fortuna's generous spirit, kindness of heart and sense of civic responsibility had a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals and families. He was a lifelong member and leader at his parish, St. John Nepomucene, past President of the Laurentian Athletic Club, and remained proudly connected to his Slovenian heritage through his involvement with various Slovenian organizations. Mr. Fortuna was honored many times for his significant contribution to our community and was named "Man of the Year" in 1975 by the Slovenian National Home of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of my friend, Joseph L. Fortuna, whose kindness, compassion and generosity has served to uplift the people of Fleet Avenue and miles beyond. I offer my deepest condolences to Mr. Fortuna's beloved wife, Virginia; to his beloved children, Joseph; Mary Ann (Jim), John (Roberta), and Jane (Phillip); and to his grandchildren and extended family and many friends. Mr. Fortuna's life, framed by love and kindness, will always remain in the hearts and memories of his family and his community, and he will never be forgotten.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF'S
DEPUTY KEITH HANSEN, THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS AND THE
CITIZENS OF CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of Caledonia Township and the American Red Cross to save the life of Sheriff's Deputy Keith Hansen, who was severely injured while serving in the line of duty.

Deputy Keith Hansen was critically injured when a suspect crashed his vehicle into Hansen's patrol car during a high speed chase in Caledonia Township. He received multiple severe injuries in the crash.

To survive, Deputy Hansen required more units of blood than the hospital could provide. The American Red Cross and the citizens of the Caledonia Township responded with an immediate blood drive and fund-raiser. Within one day, the community donated more than fifty units of blood and collected a significant amount of money to help save the life of Deputy Keith Hansen.

The efforts to save Deputy Hansen's life reflect the best of the American spirit; neighbors uniting to save the life of an injured officer who is sworn to protect them.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Deputy Keith Hansen for his service, and the citizens of Caledonia Township and the American Red Cross for helping to save his life. They are truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

DEMANDING THAT JAPAN ACKNOWLEDGE ITS ENSLAVEMENT
OF "COMFORT WOMEN" DURING
WORLD WAR II

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, during World War II and the colonial occupation of Asia in the 1930s and 1940s, the Armed Forces of Imperial Japan, often in collusion with private traffickers, forced over 200,000 young women and girls into military brothels. These women were euphemistically known as "comfort women." This despicable sexual enslavement of mostly Korean and Chinese women was officially commissioned and orchestrated by the Government of Japan.

In one of the most extensive cases of human trafficking in the 20th century, women and girls throughout Asia were recruited by force, coercion, or deception, transported across national borders, and kept at the mercy of the Japanese military in subhuman conditions. They were raped, beaten, and forced to have abortions.

However, the horror of this experience did not end with the cessation of hostilities. Many comfort women were killed by Japanese soldiers after Japan surrendered. Some of these women could not return to their homes, and found themselves abandoned in hostile lands where they were viewed as collaborators.

Those who survived live daily with the painful memories of their enslavement, and many still suffer serious health effects as a result of their ordeal. Due to the shame connected to their captivity, many comfort women chose to conceal their enslavement and many others have come forward about it only in recent years.

While the facts of these crimes are incontrovertible, the Government of Japan has not officially accepted responsibility for this atrocity. Some textbooks used in Japan minimize the comfort women tragedy and distort the Japanese role in these and other crimes committed during World War II. Moreover, as recently as June 2005, Japanese Government officials praised the removal of the term "comfort women" from Japanese textbooks.

The Government of Japan's disregard for correcting past wrongs has been further demonstrated by its leaders' frequent pilgrimages to the Yasukuni Shrine near the Imperial Palace in central Tokyo. The Yasukuni Shrine is dedicated to the 2.5 million people who died in Japan's conflicts between 1853 and 1945 but also memorializes 14 convicted Class A war criminals that committed many atrocities during World War II.

Despite international criticism, the current Japanese Prime Minister, Junichiro Koizumi, has made several visits to Yasukuni since he took office in 2001 and has stated that he will continue making the visits through the end of his term.

On April 4, 2006, Congressman CHRISTOPHER SMITH and I introduced H. Res. 759, legislation that calls on Japan to acknowledge and accept responsibility for forcing women and girls into sexual slavery during the World War II era. We hope that this bill will encourage Japan to be honest about its history and to educate current and future generations about this crime against humanity.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation, in order to demonstrate that we do not forget the suffering of the comfort women and the criminality of those who enslaved them.

HONORING DR. MOSE TJITENDERO
FORMER SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, NAMIBIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to join my colleagues here in the U.S. and across the globe in commemorating and honoring the extraordinary life of Dr. Mose Tjitendero, Speaker of the National Assembly in Namibia and a man known for his dedication to the principle of One Namibia, One Nation. Highly regarded throughout his life as an outstanding leader and a true patriot, Dr. Tjitendero was dedicated to advancing justice, independence and self-determination for the people of Namibia and for others around the world. Dr. Tjitendero passed away on April 26, 2006 at the age of 63 following a short illness.

Born the son of a Herero slave, Dr. Tjitendero hailed from a small village called Okomakuara in the Ovitoto area of Namibia. He was expelled from Augustineum Training